

Women dominate at home

By Andy Heintz and Trent Rose

Colby Free Press
aheintz@nwkansan.com

The Colby Community College volleyball team extended its winning streak to six Tuesday with a dominating victory over Trinidad State Junior College from Colorado at the Community Building.

The volleyball team is off to its best start since 2005, with a perfect 5-0 record on its home court.

The Lady Trojans controlled the tempo of the match, winning all three sets 25-19, 25-17, 25-7. The last game was particularly impressive, with freshman Ana Calito, an outside hitter from Brazil, and sophomores Gabrielly Cardoso and Danqi Li raining down spike after spike on Trinidad States' players.

The series of kills by the three Lady Trojans transformed Colby's relatively small 11-6 lead to a 23-6 rout. Calito put the exclamation point on the set with two straight kills, giving Colby a 25-7 win.

The first set stayed close early, but the Lady Trojans were able to build up a 15-12 lead. Later on, the women increased their lead to 20-14. Li ended the set with a kill, giving Colby a 25-19 win.

Colby built up a 16-9 lead in the second set. Later on, Cardoso scored on a kill to make it 17-11. The Lady Trojans went on to win 25-17.

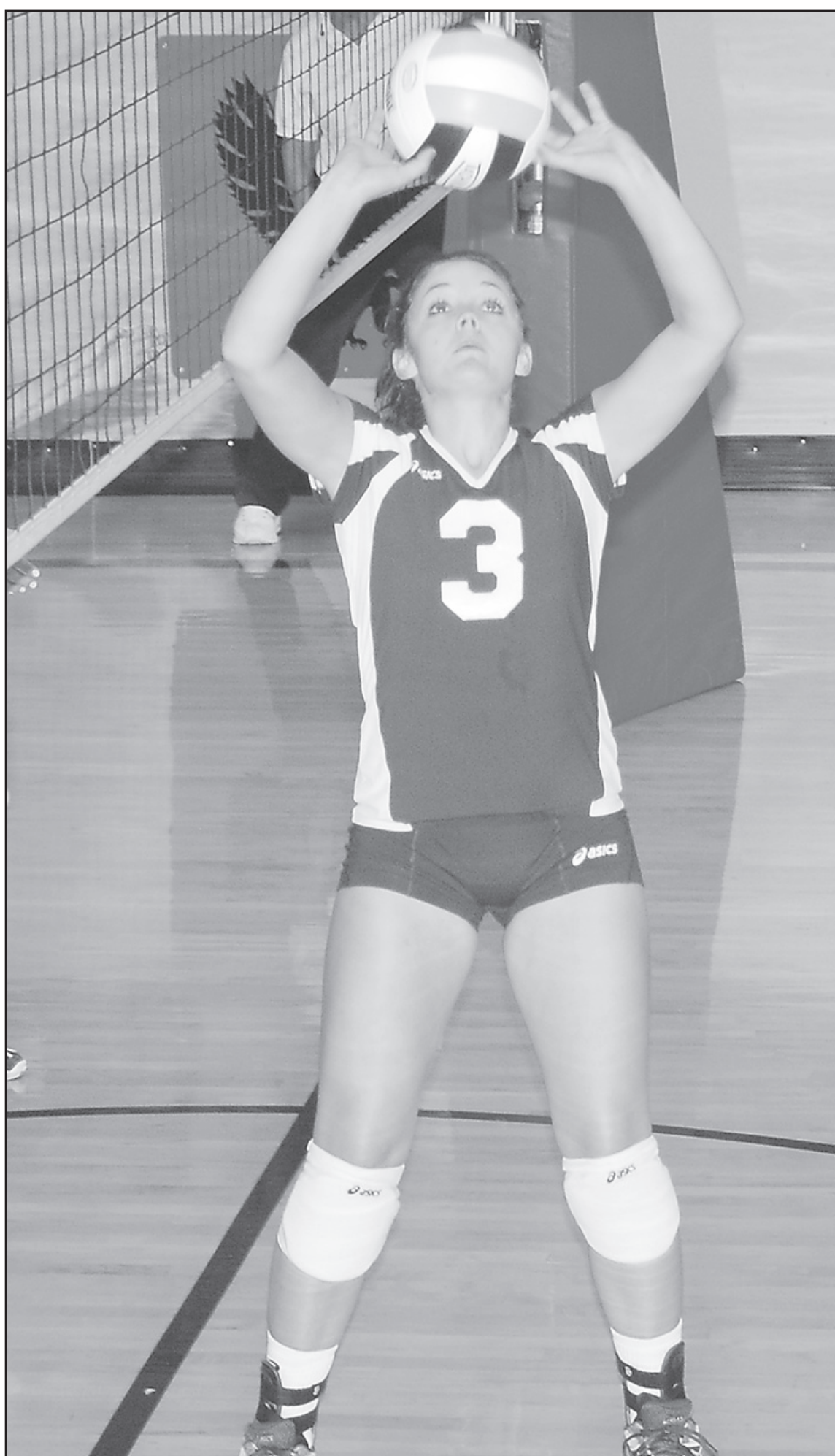
Freshman Ashley McMullen got a kill that extended her team's lead to 7-3 early in the third game. Later on, Cardoso and Calito got two straight kills to make it 12-6. Then Cardoso scored on a serve. Colby gained a double-digit lead, 16-6, after Calito and Li scored on a double block at the net. The Lady Trojans went on to pick up an easy 25-7 win.

"Tonight was a good match for us as we continued to gain more confidence in ourselves," Coach Carey Jones said. "There wasn't any specific leader tonight, but we feel positive because we had six leaders on the court, all fighting for the same goal. Everyone being on the same page will help us down the road to accomplish our goals as a team."

Another positive, according to Jones, was the team's defense against Trinidad State, which tipped regularly instead of taking full swings.

"We were quick to the ball tonight and took care of free ball chances," Jones said. "They didn't take a lot of swings, therefore we weren't able to work on our blocking as much as we would like."

The Lady Trojans successfully protected their home court on



ANDY HEINTZ/Colby Free Press

Colby Community College sophomore Emily Lubbers made a set pass to one of her teammates during the Lady Trojans' match against Otero Junior College from Colorado, during the Colby Classic on Saturday at the Community Building.

Friday and Saturday at the Colby Classic, picking up victories over McCook, Neb., Otero from Colorado and the Division II No. 6-ranked North Platte Community College.

"These are big wins for us mentally, especially before we get heavy into the conference schedule," said Jones. "If we play like we did for the most part this week-end, we can beat any team we play. It's all about confidence for us."

The Lady Trojans picked up

two relatively easy wins over McCook 25-12, 25-12 and Otero 25-10, 25-13.

In the victory over North Platte, 22-25, 25-20, 15-9, the Lady Trojans were led by Lubbers and Calito. Lubbers had 28 assists. Calito had seven kills and a team-leading 11 digs.

"You can always tell that Ana is a quiet leader on the court," Jones said. "She has the aggression to motivate anyone to get excited and we really needed that from her in

this match. She and Emily made the difference when it counted."

Li said the women played more as a team and communicated better than they had in its previous match against North Platte. Colby lost to the Lady Knights at North Platte's home tournament, 25-23, 8-25, 8-15, on Aug. 28.

Colby returns to conference action tonight at Dodge City. The Lady Conquistadors are 5-4 overall, and 1-0 in the Kansas Jayhawk Community College Conference.

Eighth-grade squad wins home opener

The Colby eighth-grade football team opened its season on Thursday with a 30-20 victory over Kennedy Middle School from Hays at Dennen Field.

"The team won because as a team they played better together than Hays," Coach Todd Murdock said. "Hays had some big kids and some good running backs, but our kids did their jobs on most of the plays and came away with a well-deserved win."

The coach said the offensive line blocked pretty well considering it was the first game of the season. He said with the exception of a few missed assignments, the Eagles' offensive line drove Kennedy's defense off the line of scrimmage and created some good holes for Colby's backs.

"There were a number of plays where you would see our linemen maintaining their blocks 7 to 10 yards down field," the coach said.

Murdock said the defense took care of its responsibilities and hustled well. He said they were able to shut down Kennedy pretty well other than a series or two.

The coach said he was impressed with how his team responded to adversity after Kennedy scored two quick touchdowns that cut the

Eagles' lead to 22-20 late in the game.

"We were able to score and get the two-point conversion to seal the game," Murdock said.

The coach said his team could have been a little more consistent with handoffs. He added that sometimes the defensive line got too far upfield, which allowed Kennedy to run a few traps for long gains.

"We need to take care of our gap responsibility and then pursue the ball carrier down the line of scrimmage better," Murdock said.

The coach praised Phillip Hillis, Caleb Mazenec, Sterling Miller and Brett Schroeder for coming out for football this year. He said last season, the seventh grade team only had 12 players, and they were always an injury or illness away from not being able to field a team.

"Thanks to these young men, we are a much better team in practice and on game days," Murdock said. "As these players gain experience, they will become better football players and help us to be a better team."

The team plays next against Oakley Middle School at 6:30 p.m. Thursday at Dennen Field.

Junior varsity girls take second place

The Colby Community College men's golf team opened its season with a 27-hole tournament at the Dave Dennis Invitational in Independence on Aug. 29 and Aug. 30.

In the two-person tourney, the golfers play each hole and the lowest score counts to their overall score. For example, if one person gets a three on a hole and the other person gets a five, the three would be the score the duo would use.

Freshmen Chris Romas and Skyler Rains finished with a score of 120 and sophomore Cole Finley

and freshman Dustin Kirby shot a 124. Twenty-two teams competed in the invitational. The top five teams won medals. Both Colby's team's finished outside the top 10.

The other schools in the tourney were Allen County Community College from Iola, Coffeyville Community College, Independence Community College, Johnson County Community College from Overland Park and Kansas City Kansas Community College.

The Trojans will play next on Sunday and Monday in a tournament in Winfield.

Golf team begins season

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Heartland builds program with victories

By Andy Heintz

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The Heartland Christian School girls varsity volleyball team may have planted the first seeds of what could eventually bloom into a solid volleyball program.

After failing to win a game in the first five years of its existence, the Lady Crusaders volleyball team was able to win eight last season, finishing with an 8-16 record.

The Lady Crusaders started this season by going 1-2 in a tournament in Healy on Aug. 28. The girls also won one and lost two in a quad meet at Wheatland/Grinnell in Grainfield.

The team swept Tri-Plains 25-20, 25-17. Coach Melissa Regier said the girls played pretty well, with the exception of two or three points.

Senior Ariel Regier got 10 out of her 11 serves in bounds during the sets, and freshman Kirsten Bandy made of 9 of 11 shots.

The Lady Crusaders lost to Cheylin1, 15-25, 16-25.

Ariel Regier went made 12 of 13 of her serves and junior Jade Kruse made 9 of 11 set shots. Kruse also made 10-of-13 serves. The coach said the team didn't serve well against the Lady Cougars, getting in only 65 percent of their serves.

Coach Regier said the match

against Cheylin was one her team should have won.

The girls fell to the Thunderhawks 15-25, 9-25. Sophomore Alexi Regier made 11 of 13 spikes. Coach Regier said the Lady Crusaders were able to hold their own with Wheatland-Grinnell in the first set until the Thunderhawks pulled away.

"Wheatland-Grinnell is an ex-

cellent team with several hitters," Regier said.

Heartland went 2-1 in a C team tournament at Colby High School. The girls lost a competitive match to Colby (19-25, 25-17, 13-15), but they bounced back to defeat Norton (25-14, 25-14) and Thomas More Prep-Marian of Hays (25-22, 25-10).

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Sports show will start Friday

Smoky Hills Public Television's *Scoreboard Show* continues Friday with coverage of six regional high school football games in an hour-long program with Troy Waymaster and Casey McAvoy as hosts.

High school football games to be featured include Ellsworth at Beloit, Macksville at Quivira Heights in Bushton, Western Plains at St. John, Southern Cloud at St. John's-Tipton in Beloit, Russell vs Thomas-Moore Prep in Hays, Hodgeman County at Trego Community in WaKeeney and Ness City at Victoria.

Members of the Smoky Hills production team will be at each of these games filming to air at 10:30.

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